

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Toshihiko OHASHI et al.

Application No.: 10/541,776

Confirmation No.: 1474

Filed: July 8, 2005

Art Unit: 1794

For: SILICA-CONTAINING LAMINATED  
STRUCTURE, AND COATING  
COMPOSITION FOR USE IN FORMING A  
POROUS SILICA LAYER

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Examiner: V. S. Chang

**PRELIMINARY REPLY**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.